

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending in this application. Claims 22-33 have been added. Claims 1, 5, 9, 12-18, and 20-21 are independent. Based upon the amendments and remarks contained herein, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections.

Drawings

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for approving the proposed drawing corrections filed on February 6, 2003. In accordance with the Examiner's approval of the drawing corrections, included in this Reply are substitute drawings Figs. 9 and 11-19. It is respectfully requested that these substitute drawings be made a part of the record of the above-identified application.

Examiner Interview

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the interview conducted on July 2, 2003. During the interview, Applicants' representative described the current invention and all parties discussed the differences between the attribute information and the returned data and the attribute information in the reference as inferred directly from the multiple replies. It was agreed that should the claims be appropriately amended to specify that the attribute information is included in and extracted from the content

of the reply data, the Vellanki et al. reference would be withdrawn.

In accordance with the agreement made during the interview, by this Amendment, Applicants have amended the claims to clarify that attribute information is included in the content of the data received in a communication from the equipment. It is respectfully submitted that these amendments are being made without conceding the propriety of the Examiner's rejections, but merely to timely advance prosecution of the present application. Based upon these amendments, as agreed during the interview, it is respectfully requested that the outstanding rejections be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Catherine M. Voisinet (Reg. No. 52,327) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.


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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment(s): Substitute Figs. 9 and 11-19